

Please amend the specification as follows:

Please substitute the paragraph beginning on page 10, line 3 with the following paragraph.

Figure 1. A schematic of the L-lysine biosynthetic pathway in *Corynebacterium glutamicum* (Sahm *et al.*, *Ann. N.Y. Acad. Sci.* 782: 25-39 (1996)).--

At page 11, lines 11-12, please delete the paragraph occurring at lines 11-12 and substitute the following paragraph therefore:

--**Figure 19.** Comparison of the aspartokinase (*ask*) amino acid sequence from ATCC13032 (SEQ ID NO: 35), N13 (SEQ ID NO: 36) AND ATCC21529 (SEQ ID NO: 2). The consensus sequence (SEQ ID NO: 37) is also shown.--

Please substitute the paragraph beginning on page 11, line 24 with the following paragraph.

Figure 26. The amino acid sequence of truncated LysA ('LysA')(NRRL-B11474) (SEQ ID NO: 21). Underlined L: the last amino acid residue of *lysA* encoded in the truncated product.

At page 47, line 12, please delete line 12 and substitute therefore:

--*ask*: 5'-GGGTACCTCGCGAAGTAGCACCTGTCAC-3' (SEQ ID NO: 22);--.

At page 47, line 13, please delete line 13 and substitute therefore:

--*asd*: 5'-GCGGATCCCCCATCGCCCCTCAAAGA-3' (SEW ID NO: 23);--.

At page 47, line 14, please delete line 14 and substitute therefore:

--*dapB*: 5'-AACGGGCGGTGAAGGGCAACT-3' (SEQ ID NO: 24);--.

At page 47, line 15, please delete line 15 and substitute therefore:

--*dapA*: 5'-TGAAAGACAGGGGTATCCAGA-3' (SEQ ID NO: 25);--.

At page 47, line 16, please delete line 16 and substitute therefore:

--*ddh*: CCATGGTACCAAGTGCGTGGCGAG-3' (SEQ ID NO: 26)--.

Please substitute the paragraph beginning on page 10, line 6 with the following paragraph.

Figure 3 A, B. The amino acid sequence of *ask* (ATCC21529 sequence) (SEQ ID NOS: 1-2).

Please substitute the paragraph beginning on page 10, line 10 with the following paragraph.

Figure 5 A, B. The amino acid sequence of *asd* (ATCC21529 sequence) (SEQ ID NOS: 3-4).

Please substitute the paragraph beginning on page 10, line 14 with the following paragraph.

Figure 7. The amino acid sequence of *dapA* (NRRL-B11474) (SEQ ID NOS: 5-6).

Please substitute the paragraph beginning of page 10, line 18 with the following paragraph.

Figure 9. The amino acid sequence of *dapB* (NRRL-B11474) (SEQ ID NOS: 7-8).

Please substitute the paragraph beginning on page 10, line 22 with the following paragraph.

Figure 11 A,B. The amino acid sequence of *ddh* (NRRL-B11474) (SEQ ID NOS: 9-10).

At page 57, line 26, please delete line 26 and insert therefore:

--*argS*: 5'-CTGGTTCCGGCGAGTGGAGCCGACCATTCCGCGAGG-3' (SEQ ID NO: 28)--.

At page 57, line 27, please delete line 27 and insert therefore:

--*lysA*: 5'-CTCGCTCCGGCGAGGTCGGAGGCAACTTCTGCGACG-3'(SEQ ID NO: 29)--.

At page 58, line 3, please delete line 3 and insert therefore:

--UCdral: 5'-GGATCTTCACCTAGATCC-3' (SEQ ID NO: 31)--.

At page 58, line 4, please delete line 4 and insert therefore:

--UcsspI: 5'-CCCTGATAAATGCTTC-3' (SEQ ID NO: 32)--.

At page 64, line 2, please delete line 2 and insert therefore:

--*lysA* (ATG): CCGGAGAAGATGTAACAATGGCTAC (SEQ ID NO: 33)--.

At page 64, line 3, please delete line 3 and insert therefore:

--*LysA3B*: CCTCGACTGCAGACCCCTAGACACC (SEQ ID NO: 34)--.

Please substitute the paragraph beginning on page 43, line 7 with the following paragraph.

Applicants have deposited clones carrying the pK184-KDABH'L multi-gene constructs at an acceptable International Depositary Authority in accordance with the Budapest Treaty on the

International Recognition of the Deposit of Microorganisms for the Purposes of Patent Procedure. The deposits have been made with the Agricultural Research Service, Culture Collection (NRRL), 1815 North University Street, Peoria, Illinois 61604. Deposits made in which the pK184-KDAB or pK184-KDABH'L multi-gene constructs have been integrated into the chromosome of a host cell include the following: (1) the pK184-KDAB plasmid, integrated into the chromosome, deposited as NRRL-B30219 and NRRL-B30221 on September 16, 1999 and (2) the pK184-KDABH'L plasmid, integrated into the chromosome, deposited as NRRL-B30218, NRRL-B30220, and NRRL-B30222 on September 16, 1999. In addition, the pK184-KDABH'L multigene construct in a plasmid configuration, carried in *E.coli* DH%aMCR, was deposited as NRRL-B30228 on September 29, 1999, and the pK184-KDAB isolated plasmid in *E. coli* was deposited as NRRL-B30628 on September 17, 2002. *E. coli* comprising pD11-KDABH'L was deposited as NRRL-B30629 on September 17, 2002. The six-gene construct (pDELia2-KDABHL) was deposited in *E. coli* (NRRL-B30233) on December 16, 1999. *C. glutamicum* comprising pK184-KDABH'L was deposited as NRRL-B30236 on December 16, 1999. *C. glutamicum* comprising pK184-KDABHL was deposited as NRRL-B30237 on December 16, 1999. *C. glutamicum* comprising pDELia2-KDABHP1L was deposited as NRRL-B30359 on October 31, 2000. *Brevibacterium flavum* comprising pDELia 2-KDABHL was deposited as NRRL-B30234 on December 16, 1999. *Brevibacterium lactofermentum* comprising pDELia2-KDABHL was deposited as NRRL-B30235 on December 16, 1999.